



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

*Testimony of
Robert L. Genuario
Secretary
Office of Policy and Management*

*to the
Government Administration and Elections Committee
March 17, 2010*

In Support of

S. B. 28 Consolidating State Agencies and Eliminating Certain Legislative Commissions

Senator Slossberg, Representative Spallone and distinguished members of the GAE committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 28, An Act Consolidating State Agencies and Eliminating Certain Legislative Commissions.

The Governor's budget strives to maintain our essential state programs in the midst of the worst economic downturn in anyone's memory. In order to do that, she looked very critically at those programs that are simply not essential and which do not provide direct services to the public.

Over the years, a number of agencies have been created for the purpose of representing, within the government itself, the point of view of certain groups of citizens. This work largely duplicates the work of any number of private advocacy groups.

In these difficult times, we have to ask if this sort of public advocacy is something the taxpayers can afford or really want to pay for at this time, given the other difficult choices that are being made to reduce or eliminate health and human service programs that directly serve some of our most disadvantaged citizens.

Thank you for your consideration. I urge your favorable action on this bill.